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The entire education community has a vested interest in data disaggregation. From classroom teachers, administrators, parents, and community-based organizations to legislators who debate education policies - everyone reaps the benefits from having access to timely and accurate data to better identify and serve a diverse set of students. But what role do parents and/or guardians have in supporting their children in their educational development and advancement?

Los Angeles Unified (LAUSD) is now issuing new student enrollment forms, allowing parents and/or guardians to select up to five different races or ethnicities for their children out of a list of over 200 unique ethnic backgrounds. These new enrollment forms are the next phase of the ‘Everyone Counts Resolution,’ that was unanimously passed by the Board of Education in May 2019.*

Looking forward, the new student enrollment form aims to ensure that all LAUSD students and employees are seen and accounted for. The collection and reporting of disaggregated data is a necessary tool for more accurately representing and understanding who students are, how they are performing, and how LAUSD resources can be more equitably distributed.

LAUSD is firmly committed to protecting student data and the collection of new race and ethnic data will not be shared with federal immigration authorities. The enrollment form will only collect data to identify the needs of individual student communities not currently captured in existing data. The information you provide is further protected under the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA), a federal law that protects the privacy of student education records.

Cordially,

THE EVERYONE COUNTS STEERING COMMITTEE
Why is this important to LAUSD families?

The livelihood of communities of color are often lost in the aggregated data provided by local, state, and federal agencies. The reason for this: More than 17 million people of different races and ethnicities are generally categorized as a monolithic group.

Without detailed data, students of colors are unseen, and their needs are ignored in critical policy decisions that impact their educational outcomes. For instance, the monolithic “Asian” or “Native Hawaiian” or “Pacific Islander” categories omit the immense variation in educational outcomes for different ethnic sub-groups.

Parents deserve meaningful data and transparency on how the LAUSD educates and supports the needs of all students. Being empowered with this information is critical to ensure your child is provided a high-quality education and the opportunities to reach their full potential.

The [re]enrollment form provides us access to and analysis of more detailed data - namely, disaggregated data - which is a useful tool for improving educational outcomes for students of color.
Data disaggregated data can be used to:

1. Identify gaps in the curriculum and the school services provided to students and families;

2. Build cultural understanding and engagement among teachers, administrators, students, and parents;

3. Guide teachers in crafting instruction that is culturally and linguistically relevant to their students in a manner that honors their histories and heritage; and

4. Cultivate new opportunities and resources to better meet the needs of diverse students.
Ultimately, the enrollment form is about being seen. The enrollment form calls for the consideration of new classes based on disaggregated data. Classes that are centered around ethnic studies. So that students can have the opportunity to learn about their own histories and culture.

Data disaggregation is crucial for an equitable education. It is important for LAUSD to match their commitments to diversity to the topics taught in the classroom.

“Data disaggregation plays a role in figuring out who benefits from the current curriculum and who would benefit from a more representative take on topics from Black to Asian American history.”
- FRANCES SUAVILLO

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**Why is this important to LAUSD teachers and the LAUSD School Board?**

Students learn best when they see themselves reflected in curriculum - when they can see a representation of themselves, their ancestors, and their lived experiences in textbooks and course materials. All classrooms, from English Language Development classes to History classes, benefit from a culturally responsive curriculum.

Through data disaggregation, English Language teachers can identify areas to make English Learner (EL) classes more culturally relevant to better reflect the students in their classrooms.
For educators, the enrollment forms will not only support our classrooms directly, but they will also have a drastic impact on the entire school district. Through data disaggregation, we can better advocate for funding opportunities and better allocate educational resources for all our students.

"Culturally-relevant curriculum/pedagogy allows students to be taught in a way that celebrates what they inherently bring into the classroom to help with student engagement and overall academic achievement. This can be empowering for students because their culture(s), lived experiences, and identities are affirmed in intentional ways that can bring out their potential."

- Ivy Daulo, LAUSD Parent and Filipino Language Educator
Why is this important for community partners, non-profit organizations, and service providers?

Disaggregated data can aid community partners, non-profit organizations, and service providers in improving the development, implementation, and focus of their advocacy efforts for students, employees, and communities of color. The enrollment form recognizes the needs and unique differences of all students in a manner that champions visibility, identity, and culture.

With access to disaggregated data, community organizers can better adapt their organizations’ programs and services for LAUSD families ranging from language assistance and bilingual education to mental health resources. The data disaggregation initiative further fulfills a critical gap in capturing the needs of underrepresented communities that have not been previously reflected in LAUSD's data collection efforts.

And having access to this data will be instrumental in helping community partners, non-profit organizations, and service providers effectively advocate for necessary funding, resources, and culturally responsive services.

As advocacy organizations and community leaders, disaggregated data can be used to:

1. Identify and increase clarity on issues facing LAUSD students and employees.

   This is imperative to understanding the needs and challenges of all communities.

2. Reveal emergent patterns, insights, and trends about each community.

   It is a powerful tool for representation and enabling stakeholders to mitigate inequalities that exist.

3. Used as a tool for data advocacy and equity.

   Community partners, non-profit organizations, and service providers will be better equipped with invaluable evidence in their advocacy work.

Ultimately, data disaggregation is a resource for community partners, non-profit organizations, and service providers to advocate for policies and resources for students and employees. This is the kind of data that has meaning, purpose, and compassion to empower our communities.
Accessing the Enrollment Form

1. Visit the LAUSD enrollment site at https://enroll.lausd.net/

2. Create an account to enroll the student.

3. The bottom of Section 4 collects up to 5 different ethnic/racial values. Choose all that apply!